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other corporate benefits. So, anyway, that's how it really works in the real world. I think there's a tendency on the part of many people to assume that minimum wage is maximum wage, and that's not true at all. You hear the same discussion if you listen in Congress. You listen to, oh, well, if we don't raise the minimum wage, that's what people live on. Well, that's not the way business works. No community, that I know of, would seek a business that would bring in people that would pay very, very low salaries. That's just not the point of having that kind of development. Certainly, North Platte did not do that. They sought out a business that would bring good, high-paying jobs, and that's what they got, and that's what we expect of our leaders in our communities. There is a question that I have in connection with the phraseology in the committee amendment which has to do with healthcare, healthcare benefits, and it calls the average healthcare benefits. I believe that's the words. And I couldn't figure out what the average healthcare benefits were. I think that reputable companies offer these, and it's my understanding that in well over 90 percent of the businesses in the state that do come here under this kind of financing arrangement do have benefits that they give to their employees. So, anyway, that's my concern. I don't think that that's necessary to have a differential in saying you pay one wage if they give benefits, one wage if they don't. I think the way it's working in the real world is not the way it's being characterized here. It almost sounds like if we don't hold them down that every company that wants to move into the state of Nebraska is going to try and take advantage of the people of the state of Nebraska, and that's not the case. I think that, by and large, all of the companies that have come in under LB 775 have been good citizens.

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: And I think that they have been a real asset to the state. So, anyway, it's my belief, based upon the experience that I've seen in North Platte, and based upon what I have heard generally about economic development, that we do not need the proposal as the committee has proposed it, but we could easily live with the 140 percent of the federal wage for those smaller counties, and 160 percent for the larger counties, and